Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
1040 Alameda de las Pulgas
Belmont, California 94002

Pastoral Staff:
Rev. Mark Mazza……………………Pastor
Rev. Rufino Gepiga………………Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mr. Henry Jacquemet…………Permanent Deacon
Rev. Mr. Steven G. Hackett…………….Permanent Deacon
Rev. Mr. Leon P. Kortenkamp ……………Permanent Deacon
Ms. Johanna McCormack…………………School Principal
Mrs. Robyn Lang…………………Director of Religious Education
Mrs. Elizabeth Zapien……………………Pre-School Coordinator
Ms. Georgianna Askoff…………………......Music Coordinator
Ms. Terri Lee Craib……………………Parish Secretary
Mrs. Karen Turner….………..………Parish Operations Manager

Parish Office:
Telephone                          (650) 593-6157
Fax                           (650) 593-1665
Web Site                                       www.ihmbelmont.org
e-mail                                            office@ihmbelmont.org
Parish Auction Web Site               ihmbelmont.org/auction

IHM School:
Telephone                          (650) 593-4265
Fax                           (650) 593-4342
Web Site                                  www.ihmschoolbelmont.org
e-mail                              ihmoffice@ihmschoolbelmont.org

Pre-School Telephone:                   (650) 593-2344

Baptisms:
Parents wishing to baptize children should call the Parish Office to schedule the baptism and to schedule participation in our Baptismal Preparation Program. Please call two months before you wish the Baptism. The preparation may be done before the birth of the child.

Marriage:
Arrangements must be made six months before the tentative date of the marriage by calling the Parish Office.

Anointing the Sick:
This sacrament is for those who are elderly, seriously ill, or scheduled for surgery. Contact the Parish Office to schedule the anointing in Church or at home. If in hospital, request the Catholic Chaplain or a priest from the Parish in which the hospital is located, through the nursing station.

Communion for the Homebound:
Contact the Parish Office if you or a family member cannot attend Sunday Mass and would like to receive the Eucharist at home during the week.

Newcomers:
Welcome to our community. You are invited to register in the parish on each 2nd Sunday of the month in the vestibule after Mass, by coming to the Parish Office during regular business hours, or by completing a “Welcome Card” found in the pamphlet rack at the entrance of the Church and mailing it to the Parish Office.

R.C.I.A.
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process by which adults prepare to enter fully into the Catholic Church through Baptism, Confirmation or Eucharist. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

Penance:
Saturdays: 4:00-4:45 pm or at other times by appointment.

Mass Times
Monday through Saturday:
7:50 AM Divine Mercy Chaplet
8:15 AM Mass
Rosary Following Mass

Sunday Obligation
5:00 PM (Sat. Vigil)
7:30 AM
9:30 AM
11:30 AM
5:00 PM Latin Mass (1st and 4th Sundays of the month)

First Friday Holy Hour
7:00-8:00 p.m.
Exposition, Meditation & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Bulletin Deadline:
10:00 AM Tuesday

December 8, 2019 – Second Sunday of Advent
Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Most Catholics are aware that December 8th is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. Until 1969 it was celebrated even when it fell on the Second Sunday of Advent. Since then when it falls on this Sunday the Feast is moved to Monday, December 9th whereas the Sunday Mass texts are those of the Second Sunday of Advent. However, when it is transferred to Monday it is not a holyday of obligation. We will celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception at 8:15 A.M. on Monday, December 9th with the school children.

Our country has been under the special protection of Mary Immaculate since its earliest days. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception links our faith and our country. More than ever we should turn our country over to her. Some recall that World War II began after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7th, 1941 “the day that will live in infamy” on December 8th, 1941. It ended on August 15th, 1945 the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary into heaven. May she guide and protect us always.

Advent is a time for us to stand united in the faith. The reading from Romans 15:5-6 reminds us: “May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Sadly there can develop disunity in the Church from within in addition to the disunity outside its boundaries. This is not the mind of Christ.

Clearly the temptation to divide up the Church must have existed in the first century of Christianity as is indicated in the above quoted letter of St. Paul to the Romans, where he exhorts the Catholics in Rome to stand together in Christ. Always, at the center is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. If we are united to Him we cannot fail. If we stand on the Lord’s certain teachings in the one, holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church we will be on safe ground. No one is permitted to divide up Holy Mother the Church. Each must do his or her part to promote unity “according to Jesus Christ.” Let us pray for unity in our troubled days.

Yours in the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Father Mark G. Mazza, Pastor

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Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

— Luke 1:30-33

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PRAY FOR:

- Those who have died, and especially those who have no one to pray for them. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.
- Those who are newly baptized: May God always be present to them and may they continue to grow in “age, wisdom and grace.”
- Peace in our world, for those who serve our country, at home and overseas; for all who suffer in any way due to war and civil disturbance, that God will assist all people toward reconciliation and peace.
- Those who are sick or who suffer in any way, that God will assist them in their need. Especially, Bob Ahrens, Tom Anderson, Joe Andreano, Fernando Arguello, Manny Galvez, Gary Harder, Henry Jacquemet, Patrick Lobo, Carol Mateus, John McEvoy, Jesse Montalvo, Victoria Renard, Ron Rosso, and for those who suffer alone and have no one to pray for them.

SUNDAY COLLECTION
Collection for weekend of 12-01-19: $5,782
Second Collection for weekend of 12-01-19: $1,354

**Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA) 2019**

“I will show you my faith by my works.” James 2:18

As Catholics, we unite in using our gifts and talents to serve others. Together, we are able to demonstrate our faith through the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal by advancing important programs for youth and young adults, social ministries, retired priests, as well as faith formation, human resources, and communications. We ask you to prayerfully consider supporting this year’s Appeal.

**Our Goal for this year 2019 is $83,531**

As of this date, we have 143 donors, who contributed $60,097 in cash / pledges toward this purpose.

**Amount Due: $23,434.**

You can donate online at https://sfarchdiocese.org/aaa#DonateForm

**THE GIVING TREE**

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” (Matthew 25:40)

In the spirit of Thanksgiving and in anticipation of the joy of Christmas, we have an opportunity as a parish to give to others to help bless their holiday season. Starting November 24th and continuing through the following two Sundays, the Giving Tree has returned. In conjunction with Saint Francis Center in Redwood City, we will provide $25 gift cards for five different vendors (Costco, Target, Safeway, ARCO & Chevron) that will most benefit and are most frequented by the various families that Saint Francis Center serves. Take an “ornament” card (or more) off the Giving Tree, purchase the respective gift card(s) and put them in an envelope and drop them into the mailbox on the right hand side of the front door to the rectory no later than Thursday, December 12th. Your generosity will be most appreciated.
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne:

After the sin of our first parents, Adam and Eve, humanity entered into the fallen state of Original Sin. Between God and humanity there existed an infinite chasm of separation which no human being could cross in order to enter into Heaven.

So, “in the fullness of time, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to ransom from the law, those who were subject to the Law” (Gal. 4:4). But there was a major obstacle: God being sinless, All-Pure and All-Holy could not be born in the womb of a woman tainted by Original Sin.

So from among all women, God created, chose and prepared Mary to become the Mother of the Incarnate Word (Jesus). He created her free from original sin from the very first moment of her conception, filled her soul with every grace so that nothing was lacking, and preserved her from all stain of sin. The grace to accomplish this came from the merits of Christ’s redeeming Sacrifice on the Cross and was made available to her ahead of His Sacrifice. Hence the dogma of the Immaculate Conception:

This dogma emphasizes the dignity and holiness required to become the Mother of the God. The dogma of the Immaculate Conception states that “the most Blessed Virgin Mary, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege from Almighty God and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, was kept free of every stain of original sin.”

_The Immaculate Heart of Mary is the loveliest and most exquisite masterpiece created by God!_

THE ANNUAL SOS CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY PARTY is scheduled for December 22th at Fair Oaks Community Center on 2600 Middlefield Rd, Redwood City. Please bring your gifts of toys, clothes, toiletries, blankets, etc. to the IHM Church vestibule on the weekend of December 14th and 15th. For further information, call Rick Dachauer at 650-279-2967.

_**Novena of Advent Masses**_

Simbang Gabi (meaning evening Mass), is a Christmas Novena to the Blessed Mother in preparation and welcoming of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. This celebration of faith strengthens the bonds between parishes and cultures, and offers a deeper spiritual experience leading to a more meaningful Christmas season for all. The first of the nine Masses will be held at St. Luke’s Church in Foster City on December 15th with a dinner reception following the Mass. Please see enclosed flyer for more information.
HELP US CELEBRATE POSADA ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Calling Singers of all ages, Angels and Shepherds. Please contact Jeff Voss for sign ups and rehearsal details. Jmv99id@gmail.com.

Discovery Room News
December 8, 2019
You are invited to celebrate GAUDETE SUNDAY on December 15th with fellow parishioners after all the Sunday morning Masses in the Discovery Room. Come by and have some coffee and goodies. Please note the basket of Christmas cards which parishioners have donated throughout the year. They are free. Take some for yourself or a friend!

Wedding Anniversaries Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral

The Archdiocese of San Francisco will offer its annual Wedding Anniversary Mass with Archbishop Cordileone as the celebrant on February 29th at St. Mary’s Cathedral in San Francisco. All couples who will celebrate anniversaries ending in 5 or 0 (5 years, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40) and all couples married more than 40 years in 2020 are invited to celebrate with us. For information, call 415-614-5547.